Action Plan for Increased Agricultural Production

1541. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any action plan for the development of Pulses, Vegetables, Fruits and Cereals in Himachal Pradesh;

((b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released to the State for the purpose, item-wise, for last two years; and

(d) whether the funds released for the purpose were fully utilised; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) A list of Central Sector/Centrally sponsored schemes implemented in Himachal Pradesh for the development of Pulses, Vegetables, Fruits and Cereals with funds released thereunder during 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given below:—

Name of the Scheme	Funds Released (Amount Rs. in Lakhs) 1997-98	1998-99
Pulses		
(1) Centrally Sponsored scheme National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)	15.00	15.00
Vegetables & Fruits		
(2) Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits	22.00	Nil*
Cereals		
(3) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in wheat based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat)	86.00	111.13

*Due to unspent balance lying with the State Government.

(d) State level sanction for implementation of the schemes were not issued in time resulting in accumulation of unspent balances with the State Government.

Action on Representation by Gujarat Government

1542. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether action has been taken on the representation made by the Government of Gujarat, regarding the cyclone of 1998-99 and scarcity of 1999-2000, to the Prime Minister on 26th October, 1999; and

(b) if action has not been taken, the expected time period to finalise the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULSTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Rs. 55.35 crore have been released to Government of Gujarat as additional assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the wake of the cyclone of 1998-99. The memorandum of the State Government for additional assistance from the NFCR in the wake of the drought conditons of 1999-2000 is under consideration, in accordance with the established procedure.

Task Force for Orissa Cyclone

1543. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force for Super Cyclone in Orissa has the same power and function as Expert Group;

(b) whether the Task Force has submitted any preliminary report for action; and

(c) if any, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The High Powered Task Force on Orissa Cyclone has been constituted to prepare a comprehensive action plan for rehabilitation,